

## LABOR STANDS FOR EQUAL TREATMENT

Looks World in Face and  
Will Resent Any In-  
justice or Wrong.

## GREAT FEDERATION OPENS ITS SESSION

Governor Swanson, President  
Tucker and Leading Virginia  
Labor Men Unite in Wel-  
come — Address by Mr.  
Gompers—Views on  
Current Questions.

NORFOLK, VA., November 11.—The first session of the American Federation of Labor, which began its twenty-seventh annual convention at the Jamestown Exposition to-day, was devoted entirely to speech-making and the reading of reports. When adjournment came to-night President Gompa, Secretary Morrison and Treasurer Larson had submitted their reports and a partial report of the credentials committee had been heard.

In responding to the addresses of welcome by Governor Swanson and Exposition President Tucker, Mr. Gompers paid a tribute to Virginia and to the exposition, holding out the fact that this is the first celebration of its kind built entirely by organized labor.

**True Patriotism of Labor.**

He confined his remarks chiefly to general matters, but toward the end came down to labor principles, and said:

"I know of no organization that makes so little pretense of patriotism, but in which true patriotism prevails to such a large extent as in organized labor. We want peace; we love peace and are working for peace, and in the proportion our working people are better

organized we will secure peace. But we are not supine; we are not driveling sycophants; we know our rights—or we think we do—and that is just as good, and we

are going to stand for them. I don't want to discuss any military or naval affairs or the policies of our government—not just now anyway—but we all know that the Federal government authorities have decided that the navy of the United States is going to be transferred from the Atlantic to the Pacific. That action or proposed action has created considerable comment, most of it favorable, some adverse. Even that I do not want to discuss, but there is a man chosen

to boss the job of taking the entire fleet from one ocean to the other of whom I wish to speak. That is 'Fighting Bob' Evans, and he said in connection with transferring the fleet: 'I don't know what may be the result of this cruise. I have only one mission, and that is to see that the fleet

goes to the Pacific Coast; and whether it is to be a trip for fun or frolic or a fight, we'll be there.' It is to that I want to refer to make the application to the labor movement. If it is to be peace:

**Labor Stands Erect.**

"I don't think that there is any man who loves peace more than I do. I believe that industrial peace is essential to our progress, almost as essential as air is to lung-breathing animals, but the time is past when the possessors of wealth, the employers of labor who consider themselves masters, can

look down upon the laboring man who stoops with bent shoulders and accepts the order of the master. Labor to-day stands erect, looking the whole world in the face, insisting upon equal treatment, equal opportunity and resenting any attempt at injustice or wrong."

presenting every State in the Union, the American Federation of Labor, declared to represent 70 per cent. of the great army of labor in the United States.

ates, began its twenty-seventh annual convention to-day in the Auditorium. In addition to President Gomers and other well-known labor leaders throughout the country, it is no secret that a number of the manufacturing and business organizations of the country have representatives present, to look after their interests and to keep tabs on what transpires.

The opening exercises in the Auditorium were notable. The attendance was large, and the greatest interest

s manifested in the various speeches delivered. The exercises were participated in by Governor C. A. Swanson, Mayor J. T. Riddick, President Harry George Tucker, Director General

George Tucker, Director-General  
rah H. Martin, and other officials of  
exposition and the city of Norfolk.  
torney's United States Band furnished  
music.

The opening invocation was delivered  
Rev. Calvin S. Blackwell, pastor  
the First Baptist Church.

**Address of Welcome.**

President Harry St. George Tucker  
ivered the opening address of wel-  
e in behalf of the Jamestown Ex-  
ition Company, and was followed by

Mayor James T. Riddick, who welcomed the great laboring body in behalf of the city of Norfolk. Mayor H. Buxton extended greetings for

city of Newport News. Merritt T. Keoke, of the Norfolk Board of Trade and Business Men's Association, in the presence of President Anderson, delivered a welcome on behalf of the business men of Norfolk.

representing the local and state or general bodies, H. S. Scott, chairman of the Central Labor Union of Norfolk, and James O'Donnell, president of the Virginia Federation of

...delivered addresses of welcome.  
A feature of Mr. Scott's address was  
presentation to President Gom-  
s of an oak gavel, made of native

The closing address of welcome was delivered by Governor Claude A. B. ...

son in behalf of the State of Vir-  
la, and awoke the greatest enthus-  
m. The Governor was at his post.